

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual

# Iron Range Earth Fest Green Inventors Contest

School Age Division - Students, Grades 4 to 12

Open Division - Age 18 and older

April 9, 2011

Mountain Iron, MN

[ironrangeearthfest.org](http://ironrangeearthfest.org)



For more information, contact:

Jim DeVries

7240 North Dark Lake Road

Britt, MN 55710

devries@northlc.com

218-749-1288 (w)

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Presented by:



**CLIFFS**

# Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability presents the Earth Fest Green Inventors Contest

## Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability (IRPS)

The mission of IRPS is to stimulate conversation and action for a sustainable future on the Iron Range of northeastern Minnesota. Our vision is to encourage, promote and provide educational opportunities pertaining to a diverse variety of sustainability topics, to become a networking and information-sharing hub, and to make sustainability an accepted core value on the Iron Range.

## Iron Range Earth Fest

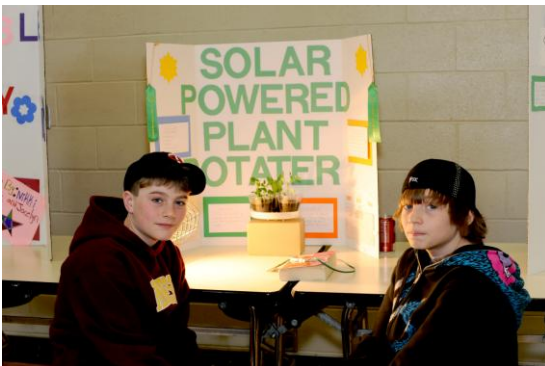
At Iron Range Earth Fest, the signature event of IRPS, we seek answers to the question; how can we meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs?

Earth Fest is a celebration of local traditions and practical resources for sustainable living on the Iron Range, offering opportunities to explore how we can all live more sustainably in our homes and communities, our economy and our environment. Participants are invited to learn about new and existing technological approaches as well as rediscover some of our long standing local traditions. We tap into the knowledge of cutting edge experts as well as our local indigenous knowledge through exhibits, demonstrations, speakers and vendors. Emphasis is placed on local products, local services, local foods, local traditions and our local wilderness.

The 3rd annual Iron Range Earth Fest is on April 9, 2011 in Mountain Iron, MN and is presented by the Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability, the Northeast Minnesota Sustainable Development Partnership with the University of Minnesota and Iron Range Resources.

## Earth Fest Green Inventors Contest

The Green Inventors Contest is an opportunity for Iron Range youth and adults to show off their imaginations and creativity, and receive recognition and awards for their "green" inventions designed to solve a sustainability problem or make something more environmentally friendly. The 2nd annual Earth Fest Green Inventors Contest is on April 9, 2011 at the Mt Iron Merritt Elementary School, during Iron Range Earth Fest.



# Green Inventor's Contest



*In-ven-t-ing (dfn): identifying a need and devising a solution*

Develop a green invention that could be new or could improve a current product/design. This invention should solve a sustainability problem or could make something more environmentally friendly.

## Competition Expectations:

- Your invention should follow the theme of "green" innovation - making the Earth, our community or the economy more sustainable (see the IRPS definition of sustainability in the attached Earth Fest brochure).
- Inventors under 18 should enter the School Age Division. Over 18 should enter the Open Division.
- Inventions may be developed and entered for competition by a single person or a pairing.
- All entries must be original, the sole work of the entrant(s) and should not be the work of someone else (including parents/guardians).
- All entries must have an entry form postmarked on/before **March 21, 2011**. Entry forms can be mailed or emailed (addresses are located on the bottom of the entry form).
- All entries must have an informational poster for the invention AND a small-scale model of the invention, OR a prototype of the actual invention.
- Entries will be judged on the following criteria:
  - Creativity
  - Originality
  - Practicality of the invention
  - Value/Benefit of the invention
  - Clarity of poster (information)
  - Quality of model/replica
- All entries must be presented at the Earth Day Celebration (April 9, 2011) by the entrant(s) for judging. Judging will occur on Saturday, April 9 from 10:00 AM to noon. If there is a scheduling conflict, the entrant(s) can opt to create four index cards with one trivia question/answer on each card. These trivia cards must accompany the poster and replica/prototype.
- Prizes will be awarded for the top three places in the School Age Division for each grade category (4-6; 7-8; 9-12)
- The top two winners in the Open Division will each receive a FREE registration in the "Build a Business...Here's How!" Program, compliments of the Northeast Entrepreneur Fund. (\$149 value)
- All entries (posters/models/replicas) must be set up by 9:00 a.m. and picked up after 4:00 p.m. on April 9th at Merritt Elementary School. Doors will close at 5 PM.
- If you have any questions about this contest, expectations or entry procedures please contact Jim DeVries via email ([devries@northlc.com](mailto:devries@northlc.com)) or telephone (749-1288w or 258-3395h)

**Note:** This contest can easily meet the MN Science Standards  
*Strand 1 Nature of Science and Engineering and Strand 2 Physical Science.*

**Liability Release:** all volunteers, employees and committee members will not have any responsibility for losses/damages of any kind that result from entry or participation in the contest or acceptance, possession or use of the prizes. By entering the contest you release the competition organizers, judges, schools, teachers from any and all responsibility or liability arising from/relating to: the contest, prizes, incomplete entries, late entries, internet/website delays, US postal delays, topographical errors in contest-related materials, human errors in connection with contest.

## GREEN INVENTOR'S CONTEST REGISTRATION - 2011

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Deadline is March 21, 2011)

**Inventor Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Open Division** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Age Division** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade(s) in School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Home-schooled?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name(s), Address(es) and Phone Number(s):**

please have both sets of information for partners

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**School Age Division / Parent Signature:**

I have reviewed the contest expectations and the liability release and agree to all contest rules.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Open Division / Inventor Signature(s):**

I have reviewed the contest expectations and the liability release and agree to all contest rules.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Invention:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe why you decided on this invention:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Describe how your invention helps the environment:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail entry forms to:**

Jim DeVries, Green Inventors Contest, 7240 North Dark Lake Road, Britt MN 55710

**OR EMAIL** (devries@northlc.com)

# Iron Range Earth Fest 2011

***Presented by: Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability  
Northeast MN Sustainable Development Partnership / University of MN  
Iron Range Resources***

## What is Sustainability?

Sustainability is most often defined as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

## Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability

Our mission is to stimulate conversation and action for a sustainable future on the Iron Range of northeastern Minnesota.

## Sustainable Communities

A sustainable community seeks to maintain and improve the economic, environmental and social characteristics of an area so its members can continue to lead healthy, productive, enjoyable lives there.

## Three Areas of Sustainability

### Community

- Arts
- Education
- Equality
- Faith Based Community
- Food
- Healthcare
- Housing
- Justice
- Local Resilience
- Local Traditions & History
- Public Service
- Recreation
- Safety
- Transportation

Community or social capital includes the vast resources and potential of each individual and our collective institutions. Think of our knowledge, our education and health care systems, and the many ways we govern and make decisions. Social capital also includes recreation, politics, religion, and cultural traditions.

### Economy

- Green Business, Projects or Products
  - Conscious of impact on natural systems
  - Conserve resources
  - Eliminate waste
- Agriculture
  - Consumer supported agriculture
  - Home gardening
  - Permaculture
- Community Infrastructure
- Development
  - Green building
  - Sustainable development
- Green Jobs
- Growth and Support Local Businesses
- Sustainable Investing

Economic capital encompasses everything we need to produce, deliver, and consume goods and services. This includes tools and technologies, turning resources into products, our money and financial systems, and transportation and communication infrastructures.

### Environment

- Education
- Energy
  - Conservation
  - Renewable
  - Technology
- Natural Resources
  - Protection
  - Reduce, reuse, and recycle
  - Renewable
  - Repair & restore
  - Sustainable use

Environmental capital consists of the Earth's natural resources: soil, water, air, wood, water, plants and wildlife. It also includes the services that living systems provide, such as plant turning carbon dioxide into oxygen, wetlands absorbing flood water, and soil filtering our water.

Iron Range Earth Fest is a celebration of local traditions and practical resources for sustainable living on the Iron Range. Participants are invited to learn more about new and existing technological approaches as well as rediscover some of our long standing local traditions. We will tap into the knowledge of cutting edge experts as well as our local indigenous knowledge through exhibits, demonstrations, speakers and vendors. Emphasis is placed on local services, local products, local foods, local traditions and our local wilderness.

Iron Range Earth Fest has been successful beyond our wildest dreams, with incredible support from our Iron Range communities and beyond. Our goal in 2011 is to maintain that momentum as we continue to stimulate conversation about sustainability, encourage people to incorporate sustainability practices into their daily lives, help them see how they can play a role in sustaining our economy, our environment and our communities, and help them understand the importance of a holistic relationship between those three elements of sustainability.

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The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Iron Range Earth Fest will be presented on April 9, 2011

Mountain Iron, MN  
along the Highway 169 corridor:  
Mountain Iron Community Center  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
Merritt Elementary School

Iron Range Earth Fest is a celebration of local traditions and practical resources for sustainable living on the Iron Range.

For more information about:

- Participating in Earth Fest
- How to get an application
- Sponsoring Earth Fest
- Joining the Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability (IRPS)

Contact:

Ardy Nurmi-Wilberg,  
IRPS Executive Director  
1322 12<sup>th</sup> St So  
Virginia, MN 55792  
218-749-4331 (home office)  
[ardynw@msn.com](mailto:ardynw@msn.com)

Or go to our website:

[www.ironrangeearthfest.org](http://www.ironrangeearthfest.org)



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Iron Range Earth Fest

Mountain Iron, MN



Saturday  
April 9, 2011

Presented by:

Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability

NE MN Sustainable Development  
Partnership / University of MN

Iron Range Resources